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Quarterly News Bulletin of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District

Vol. 3, No. 1 First Quarter - 1971
5630 South Broadway, Eureka, California 95501 (707-443-3091)

BASIN COORDINATING COUNCIL FORMED

The California State Legislature has directed all air basins to form air pollution coordinating councils by July 1, 1971. These councils are to be comprised of one elected official from each air pollution control district within the air basin and they must develop a coordinated basinwide air pollution control plan for submittal to the California Air Resources Board prior to November 1, 1971. The Humboldt County official designated to serve on the six county North Coast Air Basin Coordinating Council will be Ray Peart, Supervisor from the 4th District.

All plans developed by the council must include:

1. An analysis of existing air quality data.
2. An emission inventory of all air pollution sources.
3. Proposed air pollution control regulations and a timetable for enforcement of regulations.
4. A summary of manpower and funding.
5. An emergency episode plan.
6. Legal authority to take action.

Failure of any air basin to promptly submit an acceptable air pollution control plan will result in intervention by the California Air Resources Board as they are pressed to meet a federal government deadline of January 1, 1972 specified by the Environmental Protection Agency.

ARB TO MEET IN EUREKA

The California Air Resources Board has scheduled their regular monthly meeting to be held in Eureka on May 19, 1971 from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm in Room 203, Council Chambers, Eureka City Hall. This will be their regular business meeting and the public is invited to attend and comment on air pollution problems.

GEORGIA PACIFIC CLEARS THE AIR

The Georgia Pacific Corporation has announced a massive tepee burner correction program aimed at elimination or improvement of all burners within the next few months. Only three tepee burners will still remain in daily operation and they will be the high temperature combustion variety which produces only a minor amount of smoke and other air pollutants. The necessary features of all successful redwood burners include a high pressure underfire air grate system, overfire air recirculation and a heat retention shield which may either be in the form of a top damper or refractory lined walls. These improvements have already been completed at Georgia-Pacific's Carlotta and Alderpoint mills and work is in progress at the Big Lagoon mill site. The main impact of this extensive corrective program has already been observed in the Eureka area by the elimination of smoky burners at the Samoa and Eureka mill sites. Congratulations to Georgia-Pacific for a job well done!

AIR POLLUTION VIOLATIONS

Sixteen violation notices have been issued since the start of the new year and three cases of repeated violations were referred to the District Attorney's office. Much closer surveillance of commercial burning operations has resulted in several citations for excessively smoky burn barrels and incinerators as listed below but open burning of commercial and industrial wastes seems to be the most frequent recurring problem.

Date		Location	Source	Violation
1- 2-71	Sierra Pacific Ind.	Arcata	Open Burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
1- 4-71	Georgia-Pacific Corp.	Eureka	Tepee Burner	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
1- 5-71	Olsen Terminal	Fields Landing	Burn Barrel	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
1- 5-71	Red's Rod Shop	Eureka	Burn Barrel	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
1- 6-71	Sunset Memorial Park	Eureka	Open Burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
1- 7-71	Iverson Construction	Eureka	Open Burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
1- 8-71	Wyckoff Plumbing	Fortuna	Incinerator	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
1- 8-71	Christie Lumber Co.	Arcata	Tepee Burner	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
1-13-71	Christie Lumber Co.	Arcata	Tepee Burner	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
2- 3-71	Greenwood Cemetary	Arcata	Open Burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
2- 8-71	Overly Lumber Co.	Arcata	Open Burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
2-10-71	R. O. Swiker	Eureka	Open Burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
3-16-71	Rogers Machine Co.	Eureka	Open Burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
3-29-71	Georgia-Pacific Corp.	Samoa	Open Burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
3-30-71	City of Eureka	Eureka	Open Burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
3-31-71	Eel River Sawmill	Rio Dell	Open Burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires

AIR POLLUTION COMPARISONS

People frequently inquire about the quantity of air pollutant emissions in Humboldt County and wonder how they compare with other areas on the West Coast. Our Second Quarter 1970 Smoke Signals bulletin presented the total emissions of the various pollutants but lacked a comprehensive comparison other than mentioning that automobiles were not the major problem in Humboldt County. The following air pollutant emission summary allows a rapid comparison of our pollutant levels with other coastal areas. The massive automobile pollution problems in Southern California become readily apparent, while the relatively high particulate matter and carbon monoxide emissions from stationary sources in Humboldt and Mendocino counties should draw quick attention.

AIR POLLUTANT EMISSIONS
(Tons Per Day)

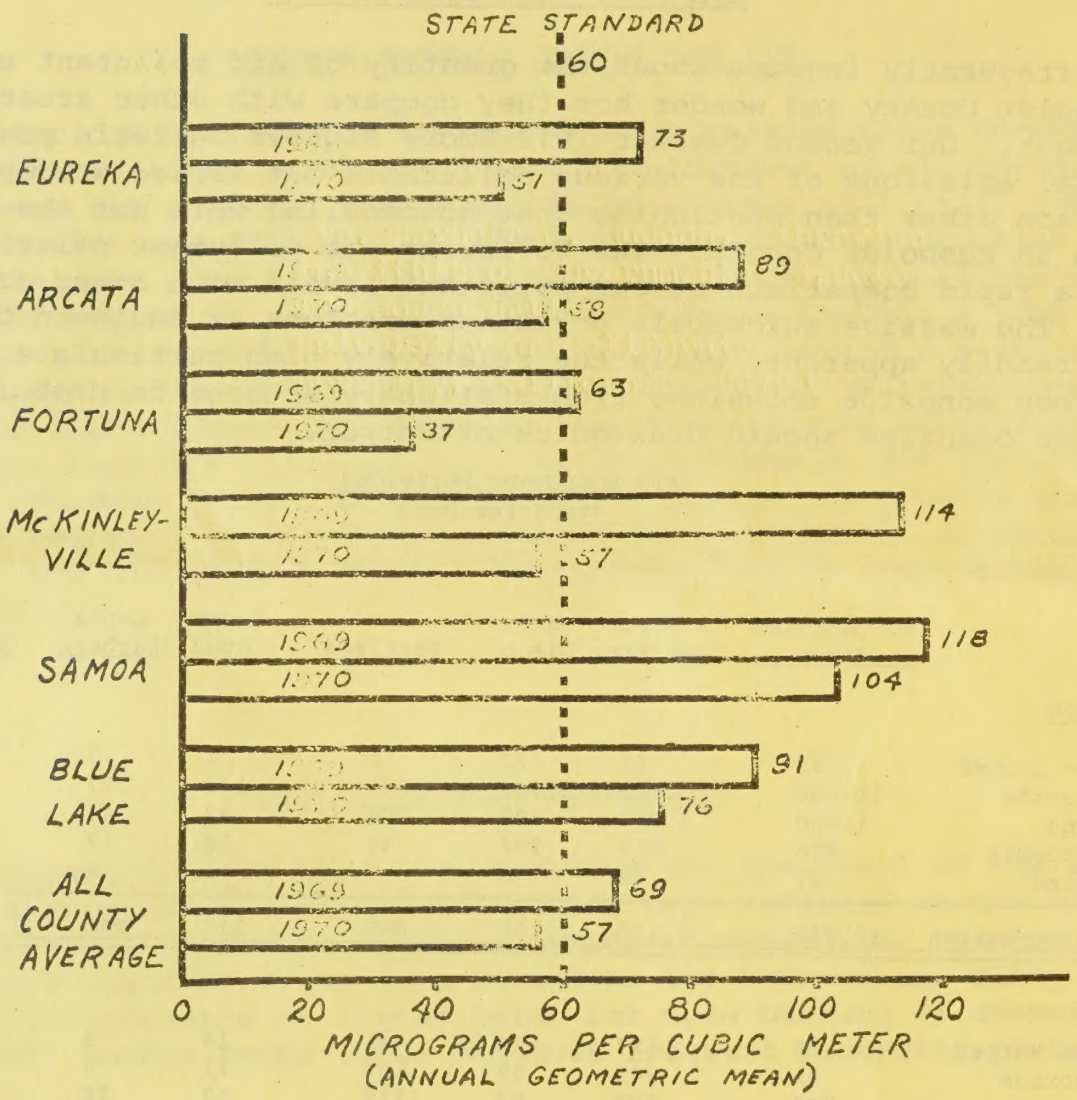
	Los Angeles Basin	S.F. Bay Area	San Diego	Portland	Santa Cruz	Santa Barbara	Humboldt	Mendocino
TRANSPORTATION								
Particulate Matter	92	61	20	8	2	3	2	1
Carbon Monoxide	10,000	5,610	1,700	833	170	227	177	70
Hydrocarbons	1,880	1,010	323	204	33	44	33	14
Nitrogen Dioxide	723	413	124	47	12	17	12	5
Sulfur Oxides	47	34	8	3	1	1	1	1
Total - Transportation	12,742	7,128	2,175	1,095	218	292	225	90
STATIONARY								
Particulate Matter	56	127	30	41	14	3	35	17
Carbon Monoxide	35	845	59	107	21	5	158	91
Hydrocarbons	732	899	87	118	12	10	30	17
Nitrogen Dioxide	305	231	64	30	3	4	9	3
Sulfur Oxides	224	408	27	53	0	0	6	1
Total - Stationary	1,352	2,510	267	349	50	22	238	129
Percent from Transportation	90	74	89	76	81	93	49	41

COMPLAINT SCOREBOARD

Pulp mill odor complaints have been running slightly below normal since the first of the year. The four high odor days experienced to date have been traced to plant malfunctions or periods of extreme air stagnation. A recent increase in odor reports have been received concerning the Eureka Tallow Works. This odor condition is believed to be aggravated by processing of crab wastes at this time of year.

	January	February	March
Smoke	30	17	24
Fallout	1	2	0
Pulp Mill Odor	56	82	50
Other Odor	3	3	11

SUSPENDED PARTICULATE MATTER



Last quarter we discussed the trend of dustfall readings taken in the Eureka - Arcata area during the past seven years, 1964 - 1970, and how the annual average values have decreased to about 10 tons per square mile per month. Dustfall measures the large particles in the atmosphere which will settle out by gravity during still weather. The above graph shows suspended particulate readings in various county locations. Suspended particulate matter does not readily settle out of the air and cannot normally be seen as discrete particles. These measurements are made using a vacuum machine and a fiberglass filter paper. By weighing the paper before and after operating the vacuum machine, we are able to categorize the dirtiness of the air at various locations. The quantity of particulate matter collected is expressed as micrograms per cubic meter of sampled air. The California air quality standard for this type air pollutant requires an annual geometric mean of less than 60 micrograms per cubic meter and no single 24 hour sample to exceed 100 micrograms per cubic meter. Collection of this type data was started in 1969, so we are only able to compare the 1969 and 1970 measurements. As indicated on the above graph, good reductions were obtained at all sample points in 1970 but Samoa and Blue Lake are still exceeding the State standard. The large reductions in the Eureka, Arcata, and Fortuna readings can be traced to curtailed open burning and tepee burner operations and we should look for lower values in 1971.

SUMMARY OF AIR QUALITY STUDIES

Pollutant	Month	Maximum	Average-All Stations
Dust Fall (tons per square mile per month)	Dec. - 1970 Jan. - 1971 Feb. - 1971	17.5 @ Samoa 11.6 @ Samoa 17.6 @ Samoa	10.5 9.4 11.5
Suspended Particulate Matter (micrograms per cubic meter)	Dec. - 1970 Jan. - 1971 Feb. - 1971	79 @ Eur. - SDH 96 @ Arcata 134 @ Samoa	54 47 61
Total Sulfation (mg of SO_3 per sq. decimeter per day)	Dec. - Jan.	0.06 @ Samoa	0.04
Total Oxidant (ppm)	Jan. March	0.007 @ Eureka $<$0.010 @ Eureka	0.003 $<$0.010
Nitrogen Dioxide (ppm)	Jan. Feb. March	0.005 @ Eureka 0.021 @ Eureka 0.041 @ Eureka	0.005
Sulfur Dioxide (ppm)	Jan.	$<$0.001 @ Eureka	$<$0.001
Hydrogen Sulfide (ppm)	Feb.	0.008 @ Eureka	0.002
Total Reduced Sulfur (ppm)	Jan.	0.007 @ Eur-Mall	0.006
Visibility Violations (1) Less than 10 miles when humidity is less than 70%	Jan. Feb. March	no violations no violations no violations	

(1) Visibility violations refer to the new California ambient air quality standard which is violated on any occasion when the prevailing visibility is reduced to less than 10 miles when the relative humidity is less than 70%. The reported readings are taken from weather data supplied by the U. S. Weather Bureau Office in downtown Eureka.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
5630 SOUTH BROADWAY
EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501

Mrs. Barbara J. Hudson, Librarian
Institute of Governmental Studies
109 Moses Hall
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SMOKE SIGNALS

Quarterly News Bulletin of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District

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5630 South Broadway, Eureka, California 95501 (707-443-3091)

NORTH COAST COUNTIES DISCUSS MULTI-COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

During the past few months, supervisors and other officials from the six counties in the California North Coast Air Basin have been meeting to consider the best approach for complying with state and federal air pollution control requirements. The six counties have considered the formation of a single regional air pollution control district, the possible unification of several smaller counties and the alternate of letting each county handle its own air pollution problems, as necessary. The large regional concept has federal funding advantages but lacks any inducement on the part of those counties which have very minor air pollution problems. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors has offered technical assistance to the smaller adjoining counties in starting their own air pollution control programs.

The present exchange of information between counties has been stimulated by the requirements of the Clean Air Act of 1970 and the mandatory formation of Air Basin Coordinating Councils as required by recent California legislation.

The Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District is being assisted by Mendocino County in formulating the basinwide air pollution control objectives and procedures. Minimum air pollution control regulations were presented at the Coordinating Council meeting in Garberville on July 16, 1971. These regulations will be presented to the individual county Boards of Supervisors for their consideration prior to the next Coordinating Council meeting scheduled for September 10, 1971 in Garberville.

OPEN BURNING MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 23, 1971

An informational meeting has been scheduled to be held in the Agricultural Center auditorium at Spruce Point on September 23, 1971 - 2:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss possible solutions to refuse disposal problems created by recent California State legislation. A meeting notice will be sent out to all fire districts, franchised refuse collectors, building demolition contractors and any other interested parties who may be affected by new open burning restrictions. The public is also invited to attend.

AIR POLLUTION VIOLATIONS

Fifteen violation notices were issued during the past three months for the typical open burning and excessive tepee burner smoke situations. A recurrent open burning violation by the Humboldt Flakeboard Division of Sierra-Pacific Industries was referred to the District Attorney's Office, was tried in Arcata Justice Court and resulted in the assessment of a $500.00 fine, suspended, with six months probation.

Date		Location	Source	Violation
4- 5-71	Joe Costa Trucking	Arcata	Open burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
4- 8-71	Halvorsen Industries	Alton	Tepee burner	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
4- 9-71	Al Amarant	Eureka	Tepee burner	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
4-12-71	M. B. Parton	Eureka	Open burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
4-19-71	Imperiale Trucking	Fortuna	Open burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
4-20-71	Tomich Lumber Co.	Alton	Open burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
4-22-71	Sean Electric	Eureka	Incinerator	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
5- 4-71	Sierra Pacific Ind.	Samoa Rd.	Open burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
5-12-71	Granite Const. Co.	Blue Lake	Open burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
5-12-71	Carolina-Calif. Ply.	Salyer	Open burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
5-12-71	Carolina-Calif. Ply.	Salyer	Tepee burner	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
5-14-71	Boyd Wood Products	Arcata	Tepee burner	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
5-19-71	Kuntz Wood Products	Arcata	Open burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires
5-28-71	Overly Mfg. Company	Arcata	Tepee burner	Rule 50 - Visual Emissions
6- 3-71	Arcata Concrete	Arcata	Open burning	Rule 53 - Open Fires

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH A LITTLE SMOKE?

Smoke, fly ash, dust, dust, fumes etc., called particulate matter, are the solid and liquid matter in air. They may settle to the ground or stay suspended. They soil clothes, dirty window sills and other things, reduce our view, and carry poisonous gases to our lungs.

California state law provides that we are to have a visibility of at least 10 miles at a relative humidity of less than 70%, (not including fog, of course). Particulate matter is a major factor in emphysema, chronic bronchitis, lung cancer, and may contribute to common cold, pneumonia, and bronchial asthma.

The amount of particulate matter in our local air is still not always below the state standard of 100 micrograms per cubic meter for a 24 hour average. Before a local program to control particulate matter was started, days with over twice the state law for particulate were common. Only now, as of 1970, are the major towns in Humboldt County starting to meet the state's annual geometric mean of 60 micrograms per cubic meter.

HEARING BOARD REVIEW

The Hearing Board of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District met on June 24, 1971 to review variance requests from two tepee burner operators and the Georgia-Pacific Corporation pulp mill at Samoa, California. The board affirmed their earlier indications that they were tiring of hearing continued delays in tepee burner improvement programs. The request for a second variance by the Bonnie Sales Company of Blue Lake was denied because the request lacked a definitive improvement program. The Del Norte Box Company presented a proposed corrective program and was granted a variance until December 1, 1971 to upgrade and possibly eliminate their present burner operation.

Georgia-Pacific's request for a six month variance from one of the monitoring requirements of Rule 57 (d) of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District drew lengthy and detailed questioning from an extremely cautious and critical hearing board panel. After detailed study of the matter, the variance was granted subject to modified monitoring conditions.

EUREKA CITY SCHOOLS STOP BURNING

After a careful consideration of the operating economics involved and the problems of smoke, ashes, rodents and odors; not to mention their desire to assist in the fight on air pollution, the Eureka City School system is in the process of eliminating 16 school incinerators serving over 8,000 students. These incinerators will be gradually phased out and replaced by the bin service offered by City Garbage Company. John Argo, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services for the Eureka school system, has indicated excellent satisfaction with the new disposal scheme and noted that for him the problems of blowing embers, neighborhood complaints and incinerator maintenance will soon be a thing of the past. Our thanks to John Argo, the Eureka City school system and City Garbage Company for the completion of another environmental improvement.

COMPLAINT SCOREBOARD

Both smoke and odor complaints during the past few months showed slight increases over the reports for the previous year. Many of the smoke complaints were caused by tepee burners in the Arcata area operating on a one day per week restricted burning variance and the increased pulp mill odor reports were largely traced to malfunctions of the non-condensible burning systems at both pulp mills.

	April	May	June
Smoke	21	45	26
Fallout	4	1	4
Pulp Mill Odor	83	85	120
Other Odor	2	1	3

PULP MILL ODOR TESTING

First, let's define what compounds cause the noxious pulp mill odor. These compounds, all containing sulfur, are called TRS which means the total reduced sulfur contained in hydrogen sulfide, mercaptans, dimethyl sulfide, dimethyl disulfide or other organic sulfides, all expressed as hydrogen sulfide. Sulfur dioxide, sulfur trioxide, or sulfuric acid mist are not to be included in the determination of TRS.

There are several different methods of testing for TRS compounds, but let's only describe the method used by the local pulp mills and leave the rest for future bulletins. This method with a variation, is used in all mills in the state of Washington and most or all of Oregon. The Barton Titrator was selected by the pulp mills as the best instrument to monitor, on a continuous basis, their stack emissions of TRS compounds. The Barton Titrator is a coulometric apparatus which operates by generating bromine on demand by passing an electrical current through an electrolytic solution. Compounds bubbled continuously through the solution react with the bromine, a slight excess of bromine being maintained in the solution by electronic control of the generating current. The net generating current is thus directly proportional to the concentration of the compounds titrated, and is continuously recorded on chart paper.

A problem can occur as mentioned at the recent pulp mill hearing, in that each concentration range must be individually calibrated to give a correct reading. Therefore, when you have a stack where the amount of the TRS compounds is usually low, but can go very high during a malfunction, you may exceed the range for which you have calibrated the instrument. You cannot just change the range on the Barton without calibrating the new range which takes quite a while. This can lead to instances where the highest TRS output cannot be calculated. The instrument can be calibrated in a wide enough range, so that the legal limits and the regular running concentration can be kept on chart without recalibrating.

The Barton has been used for the last three years at the mills and appears to be a reliable, fairly problem-free TRS monitor.

STUDENTS & TEACHERS

Personnel of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District have been actively involved in several air pollution training courses conducted in various areas of the state. Jack Caufield completed a course in "Visual Emission Evaluation" conducted by the California Air Resources Board in Redding and received certification as a qualified smoke opacity reader. Ken Corbin was also certified for the third successive time.

Charles Sassenrath turned professor for a day while presenting a seminar on "Air Pollution Control Problems of Rural Communities" for the Air Pollution Control Institute at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

SUMMARY OF AIR QUALITY STUDIES

Pollutant	Month	Maximum	Average-All Stations
Dust Fall (tons per square mile per month)	March	14.4 @ Samoa	9.7
	April	41.9 @ Samoa	15.6
	May	19.7 @ Samoa	11.7
Suspended Particulate Matter (micrograms per cubic meter)	March	99 @ McKinleyville	50
	April	100 @ Samoa	54
	May	117 @ Arcata	65
Total Sulfation (mg of SO_3 per sq. decimeter per day)	Feb-Mar	0.05 @ Ft. Humboldt	0.04
	April	0.27 @ Samoa	0.12
Nitrogen Dioxide (ppm)	April	0.038 @ Eureka	0.024
	May	0.013 @ Eureka	0.011
	June	0.032 @ Eureka	0.021
Total Reduced Sulfur (ppm)	April	*0.081 @ Eur-Mall	0.026
	May	0.001 @ Eur-Mall	0.001
	June	0.002 @ Eur-Mall	0.001
Hydrogen Sulfide (ppm)	April	0.010 @ Eur-Mall	0.004
Sulfur Dioxide (ppm) 24 hr. ave.	June	<0.001 @ Eureka	<0.001
Visibility Violations (less than 10 miles when humidity is less than 70%)	April	No violations	
	May	May 7, 1971	
	June	No violations	

*TRS ambient air quality standard exceeded on 4-29-71 between 2:20-3:20 P.M.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
5630 SOUTH BROADWAY
EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501

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Quarterly News Bulletin of the
Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District

Vol. 3, No. 3 Third Quarter - 1971
5630 South Broadway, Eureka, California 95501 (707-443-3091)

BASIN CONTROL PLAN ADOPTED

On October 15, 1971, representatives of the six counties comprising the California North Coast Air Basin, signed and adopted a basinwide air pollution control plan for submittal to the California Air Resources Board. Portions of this implementation plan will be used by the Air Resources Board in their statewide control plan which is required to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency in January, 1972.

The North Coast Air Basin Coordinating Council is composed of one member from the Boards of Supervisors of Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake, Sonoma and Trinity counties. Recognizing that the major air pollution problem in the North Coast Air Basin is one of excess particulate matter, this Council has adopted minimum standards for control of particulate matter throughout the basin. Their summary of the basin plan submitted to the Air Resources Board states:

> "The reduction and control of particulate matter in the California North Coast Air Basin is the primary air pollution concern of all counties located within the basin. Automobile and photochemical air pollutants are not serious problems at the present time. Increased air monitoring facilities will be installed to provide improved definition of the problem areas. Regulations to control emissions have been adopted or are in the process of being adopted in all six North Coast counties. Three major industry-oriented air pollution control efforts, in addition to controls over open burning and incineration, should yield approximately a 25 percent reduction in particulate matter emissions and achievement of all federal ambient air quality standards by January 1, 1975. Other isolated air pollution problems not presently defined by federal standards are matters of local concern and must be corrected with equal determination."

Many persons living in the Eureka-Arcata area do not concur that particulate matter is a greater air pollution problem than Kraft pulp mill odor, but to date, the federal government has not adopted any standards for sulfur compounds characteristic of kraft pulp mill emissions. The regulations of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District still present the most restrictive total reduced sulfur limitations in the nation at the present time.

ANOTHER SNIFF TEST

The Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District is assisting the State Department of Public Health in conducting a study of health and annoyance effects caused by airborne malodorous pollutants (pulp odor), here in the Eureka area.

This study consists of a health questionnaire taken during the end of August and olfactory measurements, using the nose, to test pulp odor concentrations from September 13, 1971 thru September 24, 1971. In addition to the olfactory measurements, we also ran air analyses for particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, oxidant, total reduced sulfur and sulfur dioxide. Data from the weather bureau and the pulp mills TRS output information was collected for the same time period and will be analyzed in conjunction with the olfactory measurements.

Additional air quality tests will be made for a two week period every three months between now and June, 1972 and the data will be submitted to the State Department of Public Health.

Some of this data will be made available to us by the State in the next couple of weeks with a final report, of course, having to wait until the remainder of the testing is complete.

NEW HEARING BOARD MEMBER APPOINTED

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors has announced the appointment of Mr. Les Tedsen to the Hearing Board of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District. Mr. Tedsen is a graduate mechanical engineer from the University of California and will serve as a replacement for Mr. Andrew Kennedy who was transferred to PG&E's new Diablo Canyon power plant. Mr. Tedsen is a long time resident of Humboldt County having returned to this area about 3 years ago after spending 20 years with the Arabian American Oil Company.

AIR POLLUTION VIOLATIONS

Air pollution violations dropped off sharply during the past quarter as local fire departments are assisting in the program of curtailing open burning. The case of Bonnie Sales Company operating a tepee burner after denial of a variance by the Hearing Board was referred to the District Attorney's office.

Date	Location	Source	Violation
7-15-71 Rio Dell Auto Supply	Rio Dell	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
7-16-71 South Bay Marina	Fields Landing	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
7-22-71 County Pound	Eureka	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
8- 5-71 Bonnie Sales Company	Blue Lake	Tepee burner	Rule 50-Vis.Emissions
9-30-71 McIntosh Lumber Company	Blue Lake	Tepee burner	Rule 50-Vis.Emissions

OPEN BURNING EXPLAINED

A capacity crowd of approximately 70 persons were on hand at the Agricultural Center auditorium on September 23, 1971 to hear an explanation of new state and county burning restrictions most of which are scheduled to be effective January 1, 1972. Mr. James Morgester, Chief Enforcement Officer of the California Air Resources Board and Mr. Charles Sassenrath, Humboldt County Air Pollution Control Officer explained the text of the new burning laws and answered an array of questions from the audience. Burning no longer allowed by the new legislation and hardest hit in this area includes:

1. Building demolitions.
2. Lot and subdivision clearing.
3. Log deck debris.
4. Commercial burn barrels.

Open burning exceptions are granted for single and two-family residences and agricultural operations when conducted in accordance with meteorological guidelines to be established by the Air Resources Board. The responsibility for issuing burning permits will remain with the local fire districts and Division of Forestry officials in accordance with the guidelines.

SUPERVISORS ADOPT REGULATION REVISIONS

On July 27, 1971, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors adopted several revisions to the Rules and Regulations of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District. Included among these additions are several portions of the California Health and Safety Code relating to open burning restrictions and statements of penalty proceedings. An additional regulation was also added to Rule 57 - Sulfide Emission Standard - in order to provide greater restrictions on the release of non-condensibles from existing plant treatment facilities which are subject to frequent breakdowns. Copies of these revisions have just returned from the printers and will be mailed out shortly.

COMPLAINT SCOREBOARD

The West Coast dockworker's strike caused a curtailment of pulp mill activities and a decrease in usage of sawmill residuals during the past few months. August pulp mill complaints dropped to one-half the usual number as Georgia-Pacific's pulp mill was shut down for the entire month. September's smoke complaints rose to 86, largely due to the emergency start-up of the Twin Park's burner in Arcata.

	July	August	September
Smoke	23	67	86
Fallout	2	5	5
Pulp mill odor	93	48	94
Miscellaneous other	4	11	12

CYCLONE SYSTEMS

Progress has been rather slow on inspection and issuance of operating permits for cyclone collection systems. To date, we have issued 62 cyclone system operating permits which included a total of 83 cyclone collectors. This appears to be approximately the halfway point as we have an additional 60 applications not yet processed.

All plywood plants inspected to date have been found operating within the emission limits, but dust emissions from redwood remanufacturing plants are excessive and contributing a large share to airborne particulate readings. Since this is one of the few areas in the country which processes dry redwood, considerable staff time is being devoted to further studies on this unique problem.

TEPEE TOPICS

The recent reduction in hogged fuel usage in Humboldt County during the past few months has caused several interesting developments in the operation of new and existing burners. Many persons have inquired about the quick appearance of a shiny stainless steel tepee at the Eel River Sawmill, south of Fortuna and the subsequent rapid disappearance of the same burner. This mysterious burner was one of a new design being produced by the Laussman Corporation of Medford, Oregon and reportedly did not perform up to their design standards. A new larger burner will soon be appearing at the same location.

The Del Norte Box Company has recently installed a new refractory dish modification in their small sawmill burner located at Arcata and have demonstrated greatly increased burning rate and reduced smoke emissions.

BUDGET ASSETS ELIMINATED

In a sweeping move to hold the tax rate, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors has eliminated all fixed asset purchases for the 1971-62 fiscal year, except those associated with the solid waste disposal program. These budget cuts will eliminate the purchase of new pulp mill monitoring facilities planned for the coming year. Coupled with expanded state and federal mandated programs for open burning and particulate matter control, our main air pollution control emphasis is rapidly being shifted away from pulp mill odor control problems.

EUREKA SMOG CHECK

The State Air Resources Board has loaned the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District an automatic total oxidant analyzer which has been placed in service at the Public Health Department in Eureka. With this instrument, we will continuously monitor the total oxidant level in the Eureka area. The compounds measured are those which cause eye-burning smog. What! Smog in Eureka? Yes, on September 13, 1971, the total oxidant level in downtown Eureka reached an hourly high of 0.090 ppm, thereby exceeding the federal standard of 0.080 for one hour during the air stagnation period which occurred over all the western states.

SUMMARY OF AIR QUALITY STUDIES

Pollutant	Month	Maximum	Average-All Stations
Dust Fall (tons per square mile per month)	June	9.8 @ Eureka	7.7
	July	10.0 @ Eureka	7.4
	August	7.4 @ Blue Lake	4.7
Suspended Particulate Matter (micrograms per cubic meter)	June	120 @ Blue Lake	46
	July	85 @ Eureka	45
	August	81 @ Eureka	45
Total Sulfation (mg of SO_3 per sq. decimeter per day)	June	0.17 @ Ft. Humboldt	0.06
	July	0.07 @ Ft. Humboldt	0.03
	August	<0.03 @ all 5 station	<0.03
Nitrogen Dioxide (ppm)	July	0.027 @ Eureka	0.014
	August	0.011 @ Eureka	0.009
	September	0.028 @ Eureka	0.015
Total Reduced Sulfur (ppm)	July	0.081 @ Eur-Mall	0.026
	August	<0.001 @ Eur-Mall	<0.001
Total Oxidant (ppm) Continuous analyzer installed 9-13-71	July	0.010 @ Eureka	<0.010
	August	0.010 @ Eureka	<0.010
	September	0.090 @ Eureka	0.023
Sulfur Dioxide (ppm) 24 hr. ave.	July	<0.001 @ Eureka	<0.001
	August	<0.001 @ Eureka	<0.001
Visibility Violations (less than 10 miles when humidity is less than 70%)	July	No violations	
	August	No violations	
	September	September 13, 1971	
		September 14, 1971	
		September 15, 1971	
		September 16, 1971	

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AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
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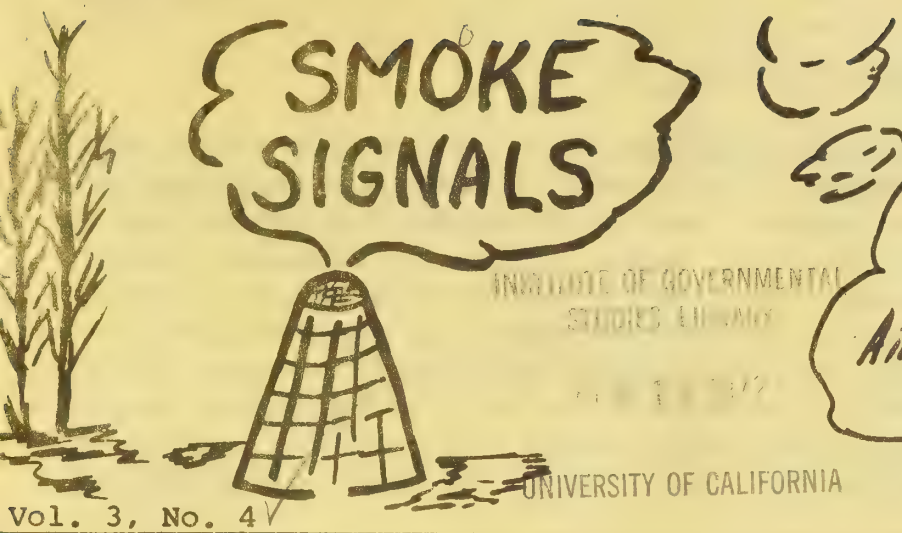

Quarterly News Bulletin of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District

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Vol. 3, No. 4 Fourth Quarter - 1971
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SHOULD APCO'S UNITE?

With the quickening of air pollution control activities throughout the State of California, it has become apparent that there is a need for the formation of an organization of air pollution control officials. The smaller, more rural counties are unable to keep up the pace of meeting ever-increasing state and federal compliance deadlines. This problem can only be corrected by formation of a united group to better define and cope with these many new situations. Such an organization would be of mutual aid to local, state and federal officials and could help to:

1. Keep county agencies informed of newly-proposed legislation.
2. Be an exchange point for discussion of enforcement tactics and philosophies.
3. Represent county interests in discussions with state and federal officials.
4. Serve as a meeting place for technical presentations and promote professional development.

In response to a recent questionnaire sent out to fifty air pollution control agencies in the State of California, 29 agreed that an air pollution control officers association is necessary. No negative replies were received, but the large air pollution control districts were conspicuous by their absence.

HUMBOLDT, DEL NORTE & TRINITY COUNTIES FORM CONTRACT DISTRICT

The Boards of Supervisors of Humboldt, Del Norte and Trinity Counties have finalized a joint powers agreement for contractual air pollution control services within their three counties. Each county will appoint a separate control officer and hearing board to retain local enforcement jurisdiction, but the staff of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District will provide inspection and engineering assistance to the other two counties as requested. It is hoped that this new arrangement will promote a more uniform application of air pollution control regulations throughout the North Coast Air Basin. Inspection activities are already underway in Del Norte County and an initial pollution source survey should be completed by the end of January, 1972.

T E P E E T O P I C S

Are tepee burners outlawed? This is the question repeatedly asked of our agency. The answer is no, they are not outlawed, but gradually they are being upgraded to conform with the state and county smoke opacity standards. Starting January 1, 1972, the requirements for installing new tepee burners in Humboldt County are being further tightened to prevent the construction of new uncontrolled sources of air pollution in the county. After that date, no applications to construct a new tepee burner will be accepted unless the specifications include an auxiliary fuel system actuated by an automatic controlling-recording device to maintain burner temperature within the proper range for complete combustion. These systems must be installed before the burner is to be used, not added on at a later date.

The year end tepee burner census was as follows:

Burners in service - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	40
Standby or restricted operation - - - - - - - -	9
Burners out of service - - - - - - - - - - - -	40
Total in Humboldt County	89

AIR POLLUTION VIOLATIONS

Air pollution violations rose sharply during the past quarter, with the burning of oily trash by several trucking companies the most prominent offenders. Humboldt Fir Corporation was cited for open burning after expiration of a prior hearing board variance and for a second tepee burner violation. The open burning violation by Hilfiker Pipe Company was also their second violation. All three cases have been referred to the District Attorney's office.

Date		Location	Source	Violation
10-13-71	Barnes Tractor Co.	Fernbridge	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
10-19-71	Dutra Trucking	Arcata	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
10-19-71	Loggers Supply	Arcata	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
11- 1-71	Scheckla Transport	Blue Lake	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
11- 5-71	Canevari Timber Co.	Fortuna	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
11- 8-71	L. E. Haire	Eureka	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
11-11-71	William Brauning	Bayside	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
11-15-71	Veysey Lumber	Fortuna	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
11-15-71	Enevoldsen Lumber	Fortuna	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
11-16-71	Humboldt Fir	Hoopa	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
11-16-71	Humboldt Fir	Hoopa	Tepee burner	Rule 50-Vis.Emissions
11-16-71	Orleans Veneer	Orleans	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
11-18-71	Humboldt Fir	Hoopa	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
12-14-71	Beacom Construction	Fortuna	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
12-17-71	Pacific Box Company	Eureka	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
12-28-71	Georgia-Pacific Corp.	Eureka	Tepee burner	Rule 10-No Permit
12-30-71	Hilfiker Pipe Company	Eureka	Open burning	Rule 53-Open Fires
12-30-71	Crown Simpson Pulp Co.	Fairhaven	Main stack	Rule 50-Vis.Emissions

PERMIT SUMMARY

During the past year 132 operating permits were issued for equipment meeting the requirements of the Rules and Regulations of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District in the following categories:

Incinerators	18
Cyclone systems	94
Miscellaneous	20
Total operating permits issued	132

An additional 42 temporary permits were also issued for special open burning situations, mostly involving building demolitions. Burning permits are no longer issued by the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District commencing January 1, 1972. All burning permits are now issued by the local fire districts in conformance with state and county air pollution control guidelines.

HEARING BOARD DENIES MILL VARIANCE

The Hearing Board of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District met on November 19, 1971 to review variance requests from two tepee burner operators and City Garbage Company. After reviewing the arguments, the Hearing Board denied a six month variance request by the McIntosh Lumber Company of Blue Lake to continue the operation of two tepee burners while conducting further studies. The Board stated that the variance request lacked a definitive plan of corrective action.

The Bonnie Sales Company of Blue Lake which had been denied a variance request at the prior June 24, 1971 Hearing Board meeting, presented a corrective program leading to the elimination of further tepee burner use. A sixty day variance was granted by the Board.

The City Garbage Company was granted a continuation variance until December 31, 1971 for completion of their new multiple-chamber incinerator.

COMPLAINT SCOREBOARD

Pulp mill odor complaints have dropped off to their usual low winter levels and the installation of new standby incinerators at both mills should help to maintain lower odor levels during the coming year. The Blue Lake Valley continues to be the area which causes the largest number of smoke complaints. This problem should be largely corrected during the next few months as burner improvements are completed.

	October	November	December
Smoke	28	23	28
Fallout	4	7	1
Pulp mill odor	48	25	21
Miscellaneous other	3	0	3

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SUMMARY OF AIR QUALITY STUDIES

Pollutant	Month	Maximum	Average-All Stations
Dust Fall (tons per square mile per month)	Sept.	9.9 @ Eureka	9.5
	Oct.	13.3 @ Eureka	11.2
	Nov.	11.9 @ Eureka	10.0
Suspended Particulate Matter (micrograms per cubic meter)	Sept.	281 @ Blue Lake	88
	Oct.	126 @ Samoa	66
	Nov.	193 @ Samoa	61
Total Oxidant Maximum high hour-ppm	Oct.	0.040 @ Eureka	
	Nov.	0.040 @ Eureka	
	Dec.	0.050 @ Eureka	
Nitrogen Dioxide (ppm)	Oct.	0.043 @ Eureka	0.016
	Nov.	0.039 @ Eureka	0.014
	Dec.	0.022 @ Eureka	0.018
Sulfur Dioxide (ppm) 24 hr. ave.	Nov.	<0.001 @ Eureka	<0.001
	Dec.	<0.001 @ Eureka	<0.001
Visibility Violations (less than 10 miles when humidity is less than 70%)	Oct.	No violations	
	Nov.	November 19, 1971	
	Dec.	No violations	

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Smoke signals : quarterly news bulletin of the Humboldt County Air Pollution Control District.

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